Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know the various lines that have been refused permissions on these two occasions ?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* Lines parallel to the Railway line.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Were special permits refused in the Kunnamkulam-Trichur line.

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* No.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be getting some additional revenue from these bus owners ?

Rao Bahadur M. Narayana Menon *(Commissioner of Police):* No.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Cannot the Government ask the railway authorities to reduce the railway fare, so that they can compete with the bus service ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Secretary to Government):* That question does not arise from this.

PORAMBOKE TANKS—SILT—REMOVAL OF

13. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether it is not a fact that most of the tanks in or near paddy fields are silted up considerably;

(*b*) whether, if any private party removes silt from any such *poramboke* tank, action will be taken against such party for encroachment;

(*c*) if the existing regulations will enable a village officer to take such action, will the Government be pleased to amend the same so as to enable the public to remove silt from such tanks without committing an offence;

(*d*) if so, will the Government be also pleased to give wide publicity to the same, so that the general public may understand that it is not an offence to remove silt from *poramboke* tanks ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) Yes; many of the tanks are silted up considerably.

(*b*) Yes; if the silt is removed without previous sanction.

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(*c*) No. It is not desirable or necessary in public interests to amend the existing rules. Sanction is generally accorded for the removal of silt in such cases. All that the department insists on in such cases is that there should be some one who can be held liable for the consequences of his action. If the restriction is removed, indiscriminate removal of silt by competing claimants is likely to result to the detriment of public interests. It is often found necessary, before according sanction for the removal of silt, to make stipulations in regard to the depth to which the silt can be removed, preserving the bed of the tank even, keeping the bunds intact, etc.

(*d*) Does not arise in view of the answer to (*c*).

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Sir, these tanks in the paddy fields are supposed to be existing for the purpose of irrigation. When they are silted up, they cannot be used for that purpose. Have the Government any idea to remove the silt themselves or allow the public to remove the same without any condition so that the tanks may be made use of for the purpose of cultivation?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* If any necessity had arisen Government would certainly have undertaken the work. If any individual wants to remove the silt he can put in a petition and it will be sanctioned. Not a single petition has been received.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunhamkulam):* Cannot the Government permit the ryots the free removal of silt at least for one year and see whether any trouble arises?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is a very dangerous thing. Suppose everybody is allowed to take away silt there will be conflict between parties and all sorts of confusion will arise. Suppose I have an enemy and I have got a plot of land near to his and I take the silt without any hindrance, then in the long run the enemy will be ruined. We want the right to be with us, so that there may not be an indiscriminate removal of silt by anybody. Generally permissions are granted to applicants if we do not want the silt for our own purposes. What is the difficulty in putting a petition ?

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* The question of conflict between parties will not arise. There is the Commissioner of Police for that.

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Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I think the Panchayat and Public Health Department can save a lot of amount by allowing private parties to remove the silt. In the case of water-channels this has been brought to the notice of the Irrigation Board for the Trichur Taluk. At least this may be tried as an experiment for one year and let us see how it works.

Mr. President: We have got even in the eastern parts a practice called *Kudimaramathu* (കുടിമരാമത്ത്) whereby the repairs are done by the ryots themselves. They take special permission and the work is done under the supervision of the P. W. D.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* These people will never join together.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* If anybody puts in a petition, the rain sets in by that time and permission will not be granted.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is not correct.

FISHERY RESEARCH STAFF—APPOINTMENT OF

14. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Government have appointed any person to conduct research in Fisheries in the State;

(*b*) if so, the name and qualification of that person;

(*c*) when was he appointed, and on what pay;

(*d*) whether a new post of a clerk to help this research-man is created;

(*i*) if so the pay of that appointment;

(*ii*) who is the clerk;

(*iii*) was he appointed by the Staff Selection Board?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Mr. E. Sankara Menon, M. Sc.

(*c*) 15th April 1940, at an honorarium of Rs. 50 a month.

(*d*) & (*i*) No. The post of an attender was created on a pay of Rs. 20 a month.

(*ii*) This attender is P. A. Kurian, Trichur.

(*iii*) No.

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